

**CONGRESSMAN SHERWOOD BOEHLERT (R-NY)**  
**FLOOR STATEMENT ON HOMELAND SECURITY**  
**May 18, 2005**

Mr. Chairman:

I rise in support of this bill, which will help us better guide the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). I want to thank Chairman Cox and his staff for working so closely with us on areas of this bill that are in the jurisdiction of the Science Committee.

The Science Committee created the Science and Technology Directorate, and we want to do everything we can to ensure that it succeeds in this mission. As I have said before, the war against terrorism, like the Cold War, will be won in the laboratory as much as on the battlefield.

The Science Committee also played a key role in the establishment of the Information Assurance and Infrastructure Protection Directorate, where our interests have focused on cybersecurity, a grave and under-appreciated threat, and one on which DHS has focused too little attention and too few resources.

This bill will strengthen research and development activities at the Department and will place new emphasis on cybersecurity. Specifically, the bill includes language to enhance technology transfer, to improve cybersecurity training, to create an assistant secretary for cybersecurity and to authorize explicitly a cybersecurity research and development research and development program. All of this language either originated in, or was worked out with the Science Committee.

I am especially pleased that the bill recognizes the need to focus more on cybersecurity. We need to act both immediately and in the long-term. Immediately, we need to shore up existing networks and develop a system to detect, report and respond to attacks. Over the long-term, we need to figure out how to make computers harder to attack.

DHS needs to be working with the National Science Foundation, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and the National Security Agency on cybersecurity, but its own contributions are critical.

Let me close by again thanking Mr. Cox, his staff, especially Tom DiLenge, and the entire Homeland Committee for working cooperatively to come up with an excellent bill. Thank you.